

Julie - Want you to read this to get a first hand
idea what Daddy was like, but think it should
go to Barbara since it's mainly about her.
Mother's still in hospital - Daddy delivered
Barbara. Will you send it on to her
after you've read it a few times?

2.20.82

Love, Mamma

22 July 1942

Quarters 1007

Fort Bliss, Texas.

(Eva & Bobbie)
Dear Hocks - well, I put in for leave
for 10 days yesterday. Capt Cooper had
asked for fifteen days a few days ago and was
granted 10 days so I only put in for 10.
That will be long enough probably for
Margaret to be here on the scene again.
She is getting along fine. I spent the
evening with her last night until 9³⁰
(2130). Naturally, she is having con-
siderable operations which we make
worse by our administration of right.
Maggie says she will always be
grateful to me for taking care of her
myself even if I get young ideas
and run away with another woman
some day. But anyone who would
run away from a family of five
daughters and their mother would
deserve the worst fate that could
befall him. How some-
thing!!
There you are a first full to look
after from 0630 to 2030!

No matter how hard I may work or to what dangers, inconveniences or troubles I may be subjected I am firmly and firmly convinced of the fact that the mother of a family and the ruler of a household with its manifold responsibilities and hard mental and physical duties has the hardest job of anyone in this world - a family is a world in itself and to the members thereof, all that affects it is as of great importance to it as though it were a complete state in itself. Not that I am not enjoying my family while the Driver is in hospital but I pay a higher price for that if more when I am solely responsible for its smooth running.

I didn't go over to Battalion today. My leave begins tomorrow but the Colonel knows how conscientious I am and more cares where I am or what I do. I always do my

work satisfactorily. Buckthorpe is trying his hand at my Reclassification job & I will check up on him the day before the Board meets. I joined the officers club again this morning - talked them into 10 days membership to save money - so I could take the girls swimming each day, I am home. I took them all up to the officers club pool and we had a wonderful time from 1:30 (1330) until 1600. We all enjoyed it very much. I think I'll take them over in the morning tomorrow and perhaps the afternoon too. There is a large area filled with white sand where they can play and they enjoy both that and the water. They are not in the water the whole time.

Neither Margaret nor I can get the established fact into our minds that we have five daughters. That is quite a record it seems to me. But of course, there is Mr & Mrs Shuler.

4 Remember how great Daddy was about telling us those long exciting stories he made up as he went along. Some required many nights to finish. Sometimes he got the hero in a jam & needed 24 hrs. to plan his solution. Fun!

with - SLOW, isn't it? The more I think of what your has meant and now just I wonder more and more at the fact that Mr & Mrs Shuler are still alive.

It seems that I can write of nothing but my family. But you see I see and hear nothing else. They are on all sides of me at all times. There is a need to be broken up before it gets a start, questions (mostly foolish) to be answered, stories to tell, bad habits to be curtailed, proper food to be seen to, stools to be flushed, washing and cleaning to be done (the girls themselves, I mean) & so on & so on, ad infinitum. If the girls give me time I'll write you frequently during the next few days.

We haven't yet decided on a name for the new one but are seriously considering William or Barbara (or one last night) - all my love to you both -

Your prolific son
Ted.